

Dear General Walters

On March 15, 1971, and February 11, 1972, my two sons, John Christopher and Robert Merritt were born. When they get older, I would like to give them a very special and meaningful gift they both can share and be very proud of among all the toys and games they will ever receive during their childhood.

I want this gift to be a lasting one, that will be passed on future generations of my family, with the hope that maybe someday, one of my sons, grandchildren or perhaps great grandchildren, will be inspired enough by it, to want to dedicate their lives, talents, and energies towards the betterment of the world and humanity itself, whether it be in education, research, medicine, the arts, public service, or some other important field needed to benefit mankind.

My wife and I feel, that if any material gift could inspire a child to want to make something of his life, to want to help the future and at the same time be a small start of and proud of his past, it would be a gift of his own photographs, autographed

Pictures, letters, or perhaps a small note,  
from some of the great, famous, and  
most admired and respected people  
of their lifetime.

If at all possible, we would like to  
add one of yours to this gift for our  
sons. We realize that you are very  
busy and therefore your time is  
extremely valuable, but any consideration  
given this request, would be greatly  
appreciated and truly an honor for my  
family, now, and to come.

Sincerely, dad  
Robert F. Allen Jr.